

PILATOPORUS MAROCCANUS SP. NOV. A NEW POLYPORE OF THE *POLYPORUS PALUSTRIS* GROUP

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ABSTRACT - *Pilatoporus maroccanus* Kotl. et Pouz., growing on living trunk of *Cupressus sempervirens*, is described as a new species from Morocco. Three new combinations in the genus *Pilatoporus* are proposed.

RÉSUMÉ - Les auteurs ont décrit l'espèce nouvelle *Pilatoporus maroccanus* trouvée au Maroc sur le tronc vivant de *Cupressus sempervirens*. Ils ont proposé trois combinaisons nouvelles au genre *Pilatoporus*.

KEY WORDS : Aphyllophorales, polypores, *Pilatoporus*.

INTRODUCTION

During a touristic trip to Morocco in April 1992, the first author found an interesting polypore on the base of a live trunk of *Cupressus sempervirens* in Central (Moyen) Atlas Mountains which appeared to be a new, undescribed species, belonging to the genus *Pilatoporus* Kotl. et Pouz. 1990.

DESCRIPTION

Pilatoporus maroccanus Kotlaba et Pouzar, sp. nov. (Fig. 1, 2).

Carposomata annua, in juvenilibus elastice carnosae, in statu siccato suberose dura, lateraliter pileata (unguliformia), 4,5-5,5cm lata (radius 2-2,3cm) et 4,0-5,5cm crassa, in sectione triangulari, superficie irregulariter et leviter tuberculata, haud zonata (solum propius marginem leviter zonata), adpresse dense velutina, prope marginem usque glabrata, sordide straminea, prope marginem ochraceo-brunneolutea et in propria margine brunnea. Caro in sectione eburnea (unico cum zona grisea), sat crassa (ad basim usque ad 20mm), marginem versus abrupte attenuata, fibrillosa, sapore in-cuspicuo; tubuli pallide eburnei, non stratosi vel unistratosi, usque ad 1,8cm longi, ostioli distincte griseis (sicut ostioli distincte griseis (sicut ostiola tubulorum Bjerkan-derae adustae vel *Trametes suaveolentis* matura), poris angulato-rotundatis, sat magnis (1-3 per 1mm), dissepimentis crassis.

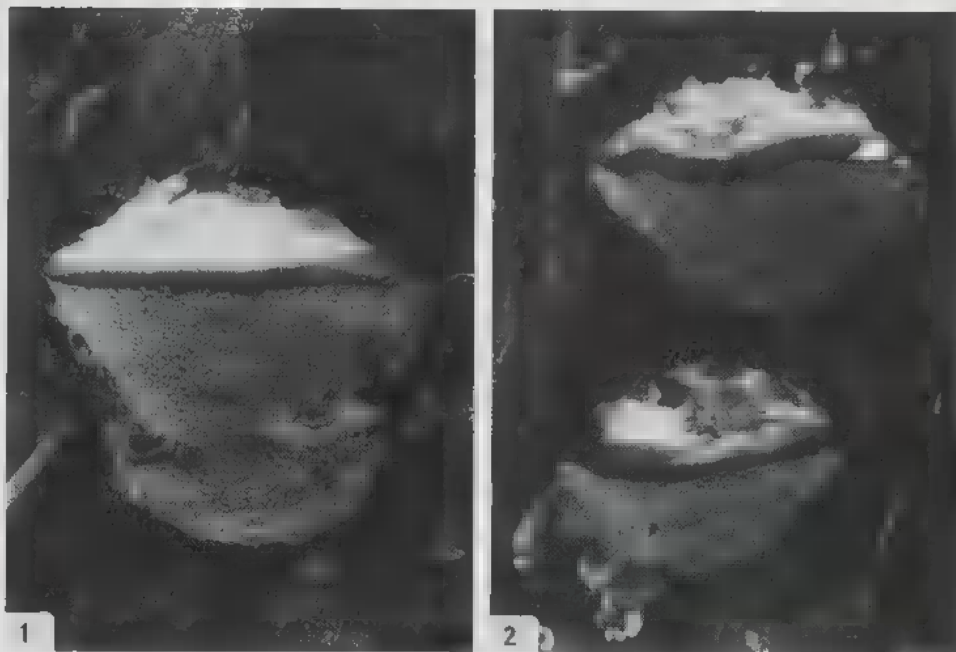


Fig. 1-2: *Pilatoporus maroccanus* Kotl. et Pouz. On *Cupressus sempervirens*. 8-10km north of Ifrane (south of Fes), North Morocco, 17.IV 1992. (1 - 1:1, 2 - 0.9x). Photo by F. Kotlaba.

Systema hypharum tramae trimiticum: hyphae generativae tramae tubulorum tenuitunicatae, ramificatae, conspicue fibulatae, 2,5-3,0µm crassae (in trama pilei crassiores, 2,8-4,5µm); hyphae ligativae tubulorum crassetunicatae, anguste canaliculatae, frequenter ramificatae, non fibuligerae, 2-3µm crassae (in trama pilei 1,5µm crassae); hyphae skeleticae tubulorum haud ramificatae, plerumque crassitunicatae usque subobliteratae (cum canaliculo peranusto), nonnullae tenuiter tunicatae, 2-5µm crassae, in trama pilei crassitunicatae, 4-6µm crassae.

Basidia clavata, 27-34 x 5,7-7,0µm, tetrasterigmatica, sterigmatibus usque ad 5µm longis; cystidiola absunt. *Sporae* 7,0-9,3 x 2,5-3,5µm, cylindrico-ellipsoideae nec non amyloideae, indextrinoideae, acyanophilae.

Putrefacio ligni brunnea.

Holotypus: Montes Atlas Medius, circa 8-10 km sept. versus Ifrane (meridio versus Fes), Marocco sept.; ad basim trunci vivi Cupressi sempervirentis apud viam, 17.IV.1992, leg. F. Kotlaba, det. F. Kotlaba et Z. Pouzar (PRM 842893).

Carpophores annual, pileate, sessile, bracket-like, soft when young, corky hard when dried, 2-2.3cm wide, 4.5-5.5cm long and 4-5.5cm high, surface of the pileus irregularly faintly tuberculate, finely velutinate, margin glabrous, dirty straw-yellow; tubes pale ivory, up to 1.8cm long, pores distinctly grey (as *Bjerkandera adusta* or in mature *Trametes suaveolens*), angular-rounded, 1-3 per mm; context in section ivory with a single grey zone, fibrillose, of indistinct taste.

Hyphal system trimitic: generative hyphae ramified, 2.5-4.5µm wide, prominently clamped, thin-walled, hyaline; ligative (binding) hyphae richly ramified, 1.5-3µm wide, thick-walled, not septate; skeletal hyphae unramified, 2-6µm wide, mostly thick-walled, inamyloid, indextrinoid and acyanophilous.

Basidia tetrasterigmatic, clavate, 27-34 x 5.7-7µm; cystidioles absent. Spores 7-9.3 x 2.5-3.5µm, cylindric-ellipsoid or almost short-cylindric, sometimes slightly fusiform, thin-walled, with a smooth, inamyloid, indextrinoid and acyanophilous wall.

Type of rot brown.

Holotype: North Morocco, Moyen Atlas Mts, near the road about 8-10 km north of Ifrane (south of Fes), in lower part of the trunk of ■ living tree of *Cupressus sempervirens*, 17.IV.1992, leg. F. Kotlaba, det. F. Kotlaba and Z. Pouzar (PRM 842893).

DISCUSSION

This newly described polypore belongs to the group of closely related species around *Polyporus palustris* Berk. et Curt., the type of the genus *Pilatoporus* Kotl. et Pouz. (see Kotlaba & Pouzar, 1990). This group of polypores is sometimes classified either within the genus *Tyromyces* P. Karts. or the genus *Fomitopsis* P. Karst. *Pilatoporus maroccanus* parasitized ■ living cypress, a tree species which hosts a very few polypores or other macromycetes.

The most closely related species to *Pilatoporus maroccanus* seems to be *Pilatoporus ibericus* (Melo et Ryv.) Kotlaba et Pouzar, comb. nov. (basionymum *Fomitopsis iberica* Melo et Ryvarden, *Bol. Soc. Brot.*, Lisboa, ser. 2, 62: 228, 1989), described recently from Portugal (Melo & Ryvarden, 1989). It differs from *Pilatoporus maroccanus* in having white to yellowish pores which are smaller (3-4 per mm) and slightly shorter spores, 6-8 (-8.5)µm long, whilst the host trees are different.

The other species, which also belong to the genus *Pilatoporus*, viz. *Pilatoporus meliae* (Underw.) Kotlaba et Pouzar, comb. nov. (basionymum *Polyporus meliae* Underwood, *Bull. Torrey Bot. Club*, New York, 24: 85, 1897) and *Pilatoporus nivosus* (Berk.) Kotlaba et Pouzar, comb. nov. (basionymum *Polyporus nivosus* Berkeley, *Journ. Bot.*, red. Hooker, London, 1: 196, 1856) differ, according to Gilbertson & Ryvarden (1986), both in their very small pores (5-8 per mm) and somewhat narrower spores (2-3 μ m). The last species belonging here is *Pilatoporus epileucinus* (Pilát ex Pilát) Kotl. et Pouz., which differs in its very small pores (4-5 per mm) and very narrow spores (1.5-2.5 μ m).

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